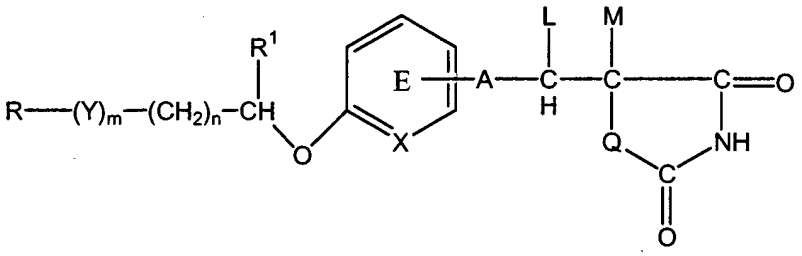
In the Claims

Please cancel claims 28-49 without prejudice to the filing of future continuing applications.

Please add new claim 50.

1. (Previously Presented) A method for lowering the concentration of glycosylated hemoglobin in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of an insulin sensitizer in combination with an anorectic,

wherein the insulin sensitizer is a compound of the formula:



(I)

wherein R represents a hydrocarbon group or a heterocyclic group, each of which may be substituted; Y represents a group of the formula: -CO-, -CH(OH)- or -NR^3- where R^3 represents an alkyl group that may be substituted; m is 0 or 1; n is 0, 1 or 2; X represents CH or N; A represents a chemical bond or a bivalent aliphatic hydrocarbon group having 1 to 7 carbon atoms; Q represents oxygen or sulfur; R^1 represents hydrogen or an alkyl group; ring E may have further 1 to 4 substituents, which may form a ring in combination with R^1; L and M respectively represent hydrogen or may be combined with each other to form a chemical bond; or a salt thereof.

Claims 2 and 3 (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound of the formula (I) or salt thereof is pioglitazone hydrochloride.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the anorectic is a β-adrenaline receptor agonist.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein the β-adrenaline receptor agonist is mazindol.

7. (Previously Presented) A method for lowering the concentration of glycosylated hemoglobin in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of pioglitazone hydrochloride and mazindol.

Claims 8-10 (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound of the formula (I) or salt thereof is rosiglitazone or its maleate.

Claims 12-21 (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the anorectic is selected from the group consisting of α-adrenaline receptor antagonists,

β-adrenaline receptor agonists, dopamine receptor agonists, serotonin receptor agonists, 5-HT agonists, cimetidine and ergoset.

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the anorectic is selected from the group consisting of leptin; leptin receptor agonists; leptin resistance-improving agents; neuropeptide Y antagonists; cholecystokinin agonists; glucagon-like peptide 1 or its agonists; galannin antagonist; glucagon agonists; melanin-concentrating hormone agonists; melanocortin agonists; enterostatin agonists; tripeptidylpeptidase II inhibitors; and corticotropin releasing hormone or its agonists.

24. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the anorectic is sibutramine.

25. (Previously Presented) A method for lowering the concentration of glycosylated hemoglobin in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of pioglitazone or its salt, and sibutramine.

26. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the insulin sensitizer and the anorectic are administered to the mammal concomitantly.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the insulin sensitizer and the anorectic are administered to the mammal separately.

Claims 28-49 (Cancelled)

50. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein combination of said insulin sensitizer and said anorectic provides an increased lowering action of the concentration of glycosylated hemoglobin as compared to a single administration of said insulin sensitizer and said anorectic.